

MATSUSHIMA

Serial No.: 10/052,345

Reply to office action dated May 29, 2003

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

The office action summary sheet does not acknowledge Applicant's priority claims under 35 U.S.C. 120 and/or 121 to Application Nos. 09/648,553 filed August 28, 2000; 09/233,168 filed January 19, 1999; and 08/718,051 filed September 13, 1996. The priority claims to these applications are recognized on the official filing receipt for this application, a copy of which is attached for the Examiner's convenient reference.

Acknowledgment by the Examiner of the priority claims to these applications is respectfully requested.

The PTO-1449 form attached to the office action is initialed to evidence the Examiner's consideration of the U.S. patent documents submitted with the Information Disclosure Statement of January 23, 2002. However, this form is not initialed to evidence consideration of the foreign patent documents. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner return with the next office action a PTO-1449 form initialed to evidence his consideration of the foreign patent documents.

In view of Applicant's election of claims 9-19 for prosecution on the merits, claims 1-8 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file a continuing application directed to the subject matter of these canceled claims (or to any other subject matter supported by the disclosure) prior to the termination of proceedings in this application.

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The specification has been amended to reflect that Application No. 09/648,553, which is one of the applications to which the subject application claims priority, has now been issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,359,665. Entry of this amendment to the specification is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 9-18 are allowed.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Miyawaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,473). While not acquiescing in this rejection, claim 19 has been amended to specify that the conductive light shielding layer is provided on a flattened layer and comprises part of an additional capacity section. The cross-hatched element in Figure 11C of Miyawaki is alleged in the office action to correspond to claimed conductive light shielding layer. However, among other things, this element does not comprise part of an additional capacity section. At least because Miyawaki fails to show the claimed conductive light shielding layer, Miyawaki cannot anticipate claim 19.

New claims 20-30 are added for the Examiner's consideration. The subject matter of these new claims is fully supported by the original disclosure and no new matter is added. Claim 20 depends from claim 19 and is believed to be allowable because of this dependency and because of the additional patentable features described therein. Claim 21 describes that the conductive light shielding layer is provided on a flattened layer which is comprised of an organic material. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is not shown in Miyawaki. Claim 22 depends from claim 21 and is believed to be allowable because of this dependency and because of the additional patentable features

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described therein. Claims 23-30 are believed to incorporate subject matter that has been identified in the office action as being allowable.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael J. Shea", is written over a horizontal line.

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APPLICATION NUMBER	FILING DATE	GRP ART UNIT	FIL FEE REC'D	ATTY. DOCKET NO	DRAWINGS	TOT CLAIMS	IND CLAIMS
10/052,345	01/28/2002	2871	908	1035-360	15	19	5

CONFIRMATION NO. 4084

FILING RECEIPT



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Receipt is acknowledged of this nonprovisional Patent Application. It will be considered in its order and you will be notified as to the results of the examination. Be sure to provide the U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER, FILING DATE, NAME OF APPLICANT, and TITLE OF INVENTION when inquiring about this application. Fees transmitted by check or draft are subject to collection. Please verify the accuracy of the data presented on this receipt. **If an error is noted on this Filing Receipt, please write to the Office of Initial Patent Examination's Customer Service Center. Please provide a copy of this Filing Receipt with the changes noted thereon. If you received a "Notice to File Missing Parts" for this application, please submit any corrections to this Filing Receipt with your reply to the Notice. When the USPTO processes the reply to the Notice, the USPTO will generate another Filing Receipt incorporating the requested corrections (if appropriate).**

Applicant(s)

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Assignment For Published Patent Application

SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA;

Domestic Priority data as claimed by applicant

THIS APPLICATION IS A DIV OF 09/648,553 08/28/2000
WHICH IS A DIV OF 09/233,168 01/19/1999 PAT 6,141,066
WHICH IS A DIV OF 08/718,051 09/13/1996 PAT 5,917,563

Foreign Applications

JAPAN 7-267308 10/16/1995
JAPAN 7-324578 12/13/1995
JAPAN 8-102817 04/24/1996
JAPAN 8-152729 06/13/1996
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